

Utah Interagency Fire Information

Cooperating Agencies:

www.utahfireinfo.gov - Utah Fire Information Center: (801) 517-1027



Bureau of Indian Affairs

For Immediate Release
July 11, 2003

Contact: Jim Springer, Forestry, Fire & State Lands,
801-538-5324
Susan Marzec, Utah BLM, 801-539-4028
Jeannette Hartog, U.S. Forest Service,
801-625-5245



Bureau of Land Management



National Park Service



State of Utah,
Forestry, Fire and State Lands



U.S. Forest Service

Fire Restrictions to Apply to New Areas

Salt Lake City ... Fire danger and recent large fires have prompted land management officials to implement fire restrictions throughout most of the state. The fire restrictions prohibit the use of open fires or camp fires, including charcoal briquettes, except in developed recreation sites. Smoking is also prohibited except in enclosed vehicles or buildings, a developed recreation site, or in an area that has been cleared of flammable materials. Lastly, using fireworks and tracer ammunition is prohibited on all state, federal, and private unincorporated lands.

The fire restriction takes effect at 12:01 a.m., July 17, 2003 and will remain in effect until rescinded. The southwest portion of the state entered into the same restrictions on June 27th because of the continued dry conditions.

The Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, in conjunction with the USDA Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, have included the following areas in the restriction:

- Private, state and federal lands in Cache, Rich, Box Elder, Weber, Davis, Morgan, Tooele, Salt Lake, Summit, Wasatch, Utah, Millard, Juab, Beaver, Sanpete, Sevier, Wayne, Grand, San Juan, Emery, and Carbon counties.
- *All lands of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, excepting the High Uintas Wilderness Area.*

“We are experiencing record extremes in the dryness of vegetation. These conditions, along with wind and the terrain, can cause fires to burn hotter, faster and in unpredictable ways, placing firefighters and the public in harms way. There doesn’t appear to be any relief from the heat and drought in the coming weeks,” said Mike Dudley, Chairman of the Great Basin Coordinating Group.

FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Fire officials offer these tips during the restriction:

- ✓ Be prepared – If planning an outing, think of alternatives to cooking with an open fire or charcoal and bring extra clothes or bedding to keep warm.
- ✓ Gas stoves are O.K. – A rule of thumb is that “If you can turn it off, it’s okay.” This applies to liquid petroleum gas stoves (white gas, propane, etc).
- ✓ July 24th Holiday – Talk to your local city officials to find locations where fireworks may be used safely and legally.
- ✓ Fire safety – For extra safety, bring a fire extinguisher along that has the ability to extinguish small fires in woody materials.
- ✓ For more information – contact your local wildland fire agency or go to www.utahfireinfo.gov.